LIFE IN PARIS.

WOMAN IN ANCIENT AND MODERN TIMES. THE TOMB OF GEORGE SAND-AN AMERICAN FABU-LIST - THE AGES OF BLONDES - HISTORY OF

BLONDE HAIR. FROM A REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. PARIS, Oct.—Silence is gathering by degrees around the grave of George Sand; it is the fatal law. Fashions in literature pass away like other fashions. It was quite in vain that George Sand touched religion, philosophy, and politics with a daring hand: all the stir she made has already subsided. It seems that authors nowadays write from the very currents and waves of the time, they are so soon borne into forgetfulness. The widow of Edgar Quinet attempted an edition of the works of that thinker, poet, philosopher, and historian, but she was forced to give it up while in progress, since there were no subscriptions. The Frenchman is so constituted that he is unwilling to render homage except to the high peaks. He subscribes for Victor Hugo and for Lamartine : he also pays his money to get Alfred de Musset and Balzac ; but the others are very soon abandoned for the new-comers. And yet, what eloquent pages there are of George Sand, what marvelous landscapes, what throbbings of the heart! This famous woman made one mistake-that of attempting to grapple with socialistic ideas. Amateur philosophers have often desired to force open the door of politics in order that women might enter. They have summoned her to the platform, not seeing in their blindness that the true platform of woman is the hearthstone. They say that it is necessary to liberate her, that is, to throw her into all the prejudices of public life. They cry out that woman requires a place in society. Has she not already the first place, she who watches over the

Plato, who dreamed aloud-Plato, who is the wis dom of antiquity to the dreamers of to-day-says that women, in courage and intelligence, are men. He demanded for them the study of music, the sports of the gymnasium; he wished to see them warriors and legislators. "Let the women of our soldiers be common among all, no one living apart with any single one. The children will then be in common, neither the parents knowing their children nor these their parents."

Philosophers have done well in securing to woman, m the name of civil and religious right, the preeminence of the mother's place; but they dare not go so far as to accord to her the privilege of making laws and commanding armies. Apollo-a luminous philosopher, since he now calls himself "the sunhas determined, in his quality of great legislator, the powers of man and woman. Has he not said:

nurse f" Also Homer, the greatest of poets after Apollo, well understood the duties of woman. "If the mother wishes to tie the knot of a second nuptials," says Minerva to Telemachus, "let her return to her father's house. It is there that the suiters must go to ask for her hand." And Telemachus, in turn, says ais mother: "Return to thy y occupations, the linen and apartment: resnuthe distaff; direct the industrious hands of thy

"Man is the father of Humanity, woman only its

In fact, after Penelope returned to her home, did she not recover all the respect due to her as woman, wife, and mother? Xenophon has said that within her own mansion woman is sovereign; there she honors those who merit it; there she corrects those who disobey the family law. If we search further back in antiquity, if we go to Hesiod, we find that admirable image which describes woman as between man and the ox,-the union of the two in communion

with nature. Therefore George Sand did well to write romances and therefore she would perhaps have done better for herself and those belonging to her if she had stayed at home. But Genius has its destiny: so much the worse for a woman if she is dowered with

the gift of writing romances! It's a long time since any fables have been invented in Paris. Too many stories and too much history are made there; but, on the other hand, the French spirit is not lost, for we find it again at San Francisco, in the fables of M. Abel Laroche. This gentleman is a Parisian of the genuine Paris, whom the chances of things have led to America; but changing his country he has not changed his tongue, for he speaks the supreme French of dilettanti and men of letters. Since he has the good sense not to write an essay upon the apologue, neither will I propound any theory thereupon. The fabulist limits masself to these eight lines, at the head of his work: "I shall not spread myself over a long preface, the obligatory vestibule of all literary structures. I shall not speak of the nature of the apologue, nor of its qualities, of which, moreover, no one is ignorant. But here is a little work, the fruit of my leisure evenings, which now appears in the ambitious form of a book. I did not design this honor for it: some friends have decided otherwise: let their will be done! Go then, my verses, take your flight; and since you are not pretentious mough to mount too high, I shall the less fear your brilliant fall !"

We know how malicious was the genial Lafontaine under all his geniality. M. Abel Laroche uses the mask of nairielé to conceal his cleverness, and so all his fables are told with the charm of abandon. He forces neither his words nor his images, he gives proof of his literary culture, but never of pedantry. One seems to be listening to a man of the world who knows his world. It is the gossip of a sage who never speaks of his wisdom, for the moral of his fables always strikes in the right place. If Lafontains and Florian, veritable masters in the charming art of apologue, could read to-day the fables of M. Abel Laroche, they could not help exclaiming more than once: "Hold! I have forgotten this!" Our distant countryman has only written these fables in the entr' actes of his life. I know some of his more serious works-for instance, a delightful family, the brightest expression of which is s beautiful young daughter of eighteen, who has all the graces and charms of a poem, to say nothing of her singing like Adelma Patti.

And she is blonde. It must be confessed, the Americans send the

leveliest blondes to us in Paris. The Nineteenth Century will be decidedly the Age of Blondes, as the Sixteenth Century was, -as the Seventeenth Century was the age of periwigs-as the Eighteenth Century was the age of powder. It is settled; all women are blondes, those of the South equally with those of the North. Nestor Roqueplan has said :." God gave blonde bair to the Northern women, to console the men for the absence of the sun." At present, the Southern women blonde thembelves by virtue of the Ean des Fées, or by simply washing their kair with ammonia. One sub stance colors, the other uncolors. It is the miracle

of chemistry. When she was 25 years old, that foolish young creature whom we have named "Ophelia" on the French stage, first took the fancy to make herself blonds-for a change. As she said, she had no doubt of being able to initiate the fashion. Now, the New World and the Old are crazy over it: all women are eager to be blondes, especially those who have become pallid. But why violate nature? Is white hair not a sacred crown to the head? Has not brunette beauty its distinctive charm and character, no less than blonde! I met, just now, a Russian princess who is renowned for her black hair and blue eyes, a combination which gave her an excestive charm. Well! Even she is determined to have blende hair. And she has succeeded in ruining her

In the Song of Songs the bridegroom says to the Sulamite woman almost the same thing as Dorat said to his mistress: "Thou hast ravished my heart with one of thine eyes, with one chain of thy neck." In the Song of Songs the eyes of the Sulamite are compared to doves bathed in milk on the edge of a fountain. Delightful image, which pictures the Seiness of the eyes swimming in their limpid margins! To what have eyes not been compared? lus says that the eyes of his mistress are stars: many times has it not been said, as to Alcibiades: Thine eyes dart forth sun-rays?" But all these

phrase in which the Arab poet declares that the eye are light itself: "God said to her eyes: 'Be !'-and they were." All the primitive poets spoke of the eyes as a sufficient description of the woman:

they were "graciously-lidded" or "love-bearing." The ancient perhaps admired black eyes more than blue ones, although Anacreon was fascinated with the blue eyes of his mistress. Almost all poets find black eyes sweeter and more luminous; they love to see them contrasted with blonde hair ; they have not yet invented eyes of the color of the air, or sky, or sea, eyes treacherous as the waves. If eyes have done such execution, from the creation of the world down to the present time, hair has intoxicated many a lip with its perfume. [Did not a king, cotemporary with Moses, become enamored of a tress of hair which the waves of the Nile carried to his feet? Was it not from the head of the Princess Mantirilis of the XIXth Dynasty, she who was named "The Palm?" "The darkness of thy hair is the darkness of the night." She also, doubtless, was clothed by her hair when she came to disrebe. Such abundant tresses must have weighed 200 cycles, like those

"Clothed with her hair"-an expression which dates from the lost Paradise. St. Paul said to the Corinthians that hair was given to woman as a vail to cover her. When Venus rises from the waves, convoyed by the Graces and Cupids, is she net made still lovelier by that flower hair which radiates around her? For Venus was a blonde. So was Helen of Troy; and Daphne still more so. All antiquity adores blonde hair; for the poets, to be blende was to be beautiful. Mars was blends like Achilles. Mention is made of a ferocious hero, a taker of cities, who dyed his hair blonde in order to have the mane of a lion. Messalina was a brunette, but she always were a blonde wig. Ovid was right in being indignant that the Roman ladies persisted in baying their hair from the Germans and the Gauls. In Brittany there is a song which says that for two thousand years the country girls there have sold their hair.

But Venus, Helen, Daphne, and the others never bought those tresses which seemed to be "of fine gold, and kissed their feet." What a great dispute of poets and lovers on those two colors of the hair! "Cover thyself with thy hair," sings Saadi; "I love thee like the night, and in thine arms I shall forget the light!" An Arab poet says: "Thy black tresses beat their wings like the raven." A Greek poet: "Thy tresses black, and lively as the grasshopper." Pindar sang of golden hair and of black hair; but Horace celebrated only blonde. Ovid praised the beauty of Leda, who was dark; "but Aurora was blonde," he cries, still dazzled by the splendor of the resy-fingered goddess. Another poet says: "It the hair be of gold, the neck is of milk." blonde begin, and where end? The Greeks said Honey-colored hair," even as Alfred de Musset, " blonde as wheat." Color of the honey of the Adriatic coast!-for the Northern honey is a faded blonde, the pale tint of the Germans, Swedes, and Dutch. It has not that warmth of tone, that Venetian tint, which captivates all eyes. There is also that blazing gold which makes the red, a beauty even more unappreciated in the old time than now. Even Solomon is reported to have said to one of his 700 wives: " Wherefore that royal purple upon thy head?" Later, a Prophet exclaimed: "Whence

head?" Later, a Prophet exclaimed: "Whence that color of blood upon thy hair?" It was to recall the rising and the setting sun.

Golden hair is the most beautiful, because light is the ideal of all beauty. Apollo, the supreme of beauty, is crowned with disheveled light, according to Bonsard. When St. Matthew speaks of the transfiguration of Jesus, he represents him dazzling as the sun, with beaming hair. Homer compares his goddesses and his mortals to "Golden Venus."

ABSENE HOUSSAYE.

THE ARCTIC REGION.

A WINTER AT CAPE BELLOT. GOOD ANCHOBAGE SECURED-THE CREW CHEERFUL AND CONTENTED-AGREEABLE ENTERTAINMENTS

WEEKLY-GAME SCARCE. The British Admiralty has published the report in which Capt. Nares describes his experience of an Arctic Winter. During August, 1875, the explorers met with many delays from the ice. The land, as far as their explorations went, was very bare of game, and not well vegetated. On the morning of Aug. 25 the ships were secured in the well-protected harbor west of Cape

On entering the harbor we had the satisfaction of sighting a herd of nine music xen, all of which were killed, our joy at the good luck of the sportsmen and ourselves being greatly increased by the news that the vegetation was considerably richer than that of any part of the coast vinited by us north of Port Foulke, the Elysium of the Arctic regions. Finding that the harbor was suitable in every way for Winter quarters, and the abundance of the spare Arctic vegetation in the neighborhood giving every promise of game being procurable. I here decided to leave the Discovery and to push forward with the Alert alone.

August the Alert arrived at latitude \$22.24 N., a higher latitude than any vessel had ever before attained. The weather began to change; a gale was experienced one night, and a few days later there was a heavy fall of snow. On the 11th of September Capt. Nares says:

The sky being fairly clear, this was the first day or which we were able to pronounce decidedly concerning the northern land reported to exist by the Polaris. After The sky being fairly clear, this was the first day on which we were able to pronounce decidedly concerning the northern hand reported to exist by the Polaris. After a constant watch, and carefully noting the movement of the darkened patches, I was now with much reductance forced to admit that no hand existed to the northward for a very considerable distance. As seen through the light haze the dark reflection of the sky above the described pools of water in the offing in strong contrast by the side of the light reflected from the close ice, which in a great measure is similar to the bright clare reflected from a large sand flat, creates a very decided appearance of land when there is a mirage; indeed, sufficiently so as to deceive many of us when so anxiously expecting and hoping to see it. We, therefore, cease to wonder at the casual look-out men from the Polaris being mistaken, but the more experienced on board should not have allowed themselves to be so readily misied.

Severe weather began to set in, and in a very days the

Severe weather began to set in, and in a very days the Alert was closed in by the ice for the Winter. Early in October an unsuccessful attempt was made to communi-cate with the Discovery, anchored in another harbor. On the return of the traveling parties the sun had bidden farewell to the explorers, who began to make prepara-

tions for the Winter:

The long Arctic Winter, with its unparalleled intensity and duration of darkness produced by an absence of sunlight for 142 days, was passed by each individual on board with much cheerfuness and contentment. Owing to the sameness in the daily routine, which, when looking into futurity, is thought to entail a long duration of dreary monotony, the time, in reality, passed with great rapidity, and in January, when the first glimmering increase in the midday twilight began to lengthen sensibly day by day, the want of light was scarcely noticed by any one; and not until the sun actually returned on the 1st of March did we in any way realize the intense darknoss we must have experienced for so long a period. The manifold ordinary duties of the ship—to which were added the constant repair of the snow embankment, which, in consequence of our being frozen in close to a stranded piece of ice, was thrown down every Spring tide—kept the ship's company fully employed, and gave them pleaty of exercise during the day. On fine evenings 1s the week a school, formed on the lower deck under Commander Markham and several of the officers, was well altended, each Thursday being devoted to lectures, songs in character, and readings, with occasional theatment errorsentations; the whole so admirably arranged and conducted by Commander Markham as to keep up the pleased interest of all for the whole period.

Capt. Nares gives some interesting information regarding the Winter they experienced:

Atter the heavy snow fall in the Autumn very little. The long Arctic Winter, with its unparalleled intensity

Capt. Nares gives some interesting information regarding the Winter they experienced:

After the heavy snow fall in the Autumn very little fell; and much trouble was experienced in obtaining sufficient for embanking the ship; it being necessary to drag some from the shore for that purpose. Owing to the small quantity which fell during the Winter, estimated at from six to eight inches, the summits of the coast hills were uncovered by the wind and remained so until May and the early part of June, when we again experienced a heavy snow fall, estimated at a mean thickness of one foot. In the valleys and on the shores having an eastern assect the snow which fell remained light, and unless snow shoes were used caused very heavy traveling. In the unprotected valleys and on the weather coasts the snow was sufficiently compact to afford fair traveling, much the same as that experienced in Southern latitudes, where the more variable winds harden the snow everywhere. Light flashes of aurora were occasionally seen on various bearings, but most commonly passing through the zenith. None were of sufficient brilliancy to call for notice. The phenomena may be said to have been insignificant in the extreme, and, as far as we could discover, were totally unconnected with any magnetic or electric disturbance.

The vicinity of their Winter quarters proved to be unfavored by game. ing the Winter they experienced:

mile woman almost the same thing as Dorat to his mistress: "Thou hast ravished my heart one of thine eyes, with one chain of thy neck." as Song of Songs the eyes of the Sulamite are sared to doves bathed in milk on the edge of a tain. Delightful image, which pictures the these of the eyes swimming in their limpid that! To what have eyes not been compared? It is says that the eyes of his mistress are stars: a few plarmigan, ducks, and geese were shot and a few plarmigan, ducks, and geese were shot and a few plarmigan, ducks, and geese were shot and a few plarmigan, ducks, and geese were shot and a few plarmigan, ducks, and geese were shot and a few plarmigan, ducks, and geese were shot and a few plarmigan, ducks, and geese were shot and a few plarmigan, ducks, and geese were shot and a few plarmigan in the eyes burn and shine within the slike diamonds in rings of gold. And how times has it not been said, as to Alcibiades: ne eyes dart forth sun-rays? But all these loss metaphors are eclipsed by that beautiful

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

SERVIA SAVED BY RUSSIA. THE TUEKS RESTRAINED IN TIME FROM MARCHING ON BELGRADE-PROSPECT OF FURTHER CONCES-SIONS AT CONSTANTINOPLE—THE PORTE WILLING TO GIVE ANYTHING BUT HOME RULE-RUSSIA MISTRUSTED IN ENGLAND.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. LONDON, Nov. 2 .- The situation in Turkey at the present time may be very briefly described. The Russo-Servian army has been routed. Alexinatz is practically in the hands of the Turks, and there is nothing to prevent them from consummating their victory and marching on to Belgrade but the two months' armistice which the Porte has at length agreed to concede. How far the armistice is the result of the very peremptory ultimatum which Gen. Ignatieff delivered to the Porte on Tuesday night is a question which is still in doubt, but there can be no doubt that the Turkish victories inspired the ultimatum. The possibility of the Turks becoming victors in front of Alexinatz was evidently a contingeney which had been left out of account at Livadia. and the receipt of the news mmy well have caused some alarm in the counsels of the Czar. The only hope of averting a change in the diplomatic as well as the military position lay in compelling Turkey at once to say Aye or No to the question of a short armistice with which she has been dallying for the past month. Accordingly, on Tuesday, Gen. Ignatieff was instructed to demand from the Porte the acceptance of a six weeks' armistice and a suspension of hostilities within 48 hours, or else break off all diplomatic relations with the Porte and to leave Constantinople, notwithstanding the fact that the armistice was practically concluded and in reality only awaited signature.

Assuming, therefore, that Turkey has conceded all that Russia asks, it becomes of less importance to examine with minuteness the causes which on the one hand contributed to the delay, and on the other which induced the ultimatum. Still there are one or two points in which these considerations bear upon the future, and so far it is profitable to examine them. In the first place, as to the delay. Did it arise from the mere dilatory method of the Turks, was it anything more than the necessary consequence of the system of Ottoman Government, or was it part of a preconceived plan to make one last desperate struggle in Servia before giving over, and thus, in the case of victory, to place the Porte in a better diplomatic position than she has all along heldf If we accept the former alternative it will only tell against the Porte and make Russia more exacting in her requirement of fresh guarantees against such administrative impotence, and if the latter, she will hardly be in a better position, for it we would regard any other victor. She will inevitably have to be content with the mere honor-if such indeed it can be called-of having subdued her insurgent vassal. Not an inch of territory will be allowed her, and any sign of pressing upon the Servians any of the conditions which a victor generally imposes upon the vanquished will meet with a stardy opposition from Russia, if not from the other Powers. Again, as to the ultimatum of Russia. Many suggestions have been made as to the cause of this step, but none are so feasible as the one I have mentioned. For even if the Russians did not fear that fresh victories would give the upper hand to the Turks, they at least knew that an ultimatum would place the appearance in their favor, and they could point to the armistice as the result of their

Here then is ample room for the recurren new difficulties. The great hope of success lies the moderation of the Saltan and his advisers, but the turn of events in front of Alexinatz may well and new difficulties in inducing the Porto to refus much that has been asked of it and but grudgingly to yield a great deal more. Since the accession of placing herself in antagonism to the rest of Europe has very much diminished. No one seems so thoroughly to grasp the situation as he, and for the first time it appears that a Sultan is on the throne who knows what Western opinion requires of his Government. He cannot forget that the present is the crisis with his country. If she is to be revived at all or made worthy of the position of a European power now is the last opportunity which will be given her of making herself so. The opportunity even now is not of the best or the surest unless the work is undertaken in a spirit which will command the confi-Sultan has always met the suggestions of the Powers, and indeed the way in which the Porte received the ultimatum of Russia, is not the least hopeful sign that, so far as Turkey is concerned, the probabilities of peace are not in great danger. key seems willing to consent to almost anything nation is in a position to enter into, it may be taken which does not involve autonomy of the Christian provinces. She has shown a disposition to consent to any number of reforms and to give guarantees for their performance. The new Sultan has given the negotiations. If they are carried on by means some of the worst enemies of his country the belief that he is in earnest, and the only danger appre-hended is that when it course to the hended is that when it comes to the point the Mussulmans will be too many for him and that the new proposals for reform will go the way of all their bassadors at Constantinople. A conference will in predecessors.

If we turn to the other Power most interested in the negotiations, we see at once a less hopeful outlook. Apart from certain minor considerations, it is not in the interest of Russia to have a peaceful solution of the present difficulty. As a recent writer in The Quarterly Review pointed out with such clearness, her traditions, her policy, and her diplomacy have ever been averse to the maintenance of the Turkish Empire. We have seen from Servia what might be the effect of a chain of autono mous States under the nominal suzerainty of the Porte, and Turkey may well essay to fight rather than yield such a point to Russia. It cannot be denied that if Russia is not playing what is familiarly known as a waiting game, she is at least keenly on the alert to gain every advantage which can be secured. A feeling of mistrust in Russia, which is daily increasing, has arisen among English politicians. This feeling has certainly received a great stimulus from recent occurrences, but however originating, however stimulated, it is rank political heresy now to regard Russia in the light of a peacefully disposed power. At the present moment Mr. Gladstone is the only official politician of any note who stands by the Muscovite and professes to believe in his good intentions. The notion that Russia is the disinterested friend of the oppressed Christians has quite passed away. It may be urged that Russian finances are not in a po-sition to stand the drain of a war, and that her administrative resources are even now overtaxe The obvious reply is that the question of finance has had before now to give way to Imperial aggrandizement, and as to Russia having already too much on her hands, the Danube provinces, or so much of Turkey as she might be able to secure, would turn out a feeder rather than a sucker of her administrative resources. Still, it must not be forgotten that Russia is only one of the family of nations, and that she must, as others do, bow to international usage and international courtesies. She cannot pursue a path of her own entirely apart from some at least of the other Powers. An effectual means of checkmating the designs of Russia may be practiced by the Turks in granting all that she asks for in reason, and showing that they at least are sincere in bringing about a better state of things. If events foretell themselves, this is the policy they will pursue; it is, indeed, the policy which has ever been in vogue at Constantinople since the establishment of these ne-

The question of the Imperial Alliance has received renewed attention this week in consequence of the speech of the Emperor of Germany at the opening of the German Parliament on Monday. A double and totally diverse meaning has been attached to the Emperor's words, and they are hailed at once as a declaration of an alliance with Russia and as an indication that Germany has no desire to interfere in the quarrels of other nations except by friendly mediation. The words certainly appear to favor both views, but possibly this is an instance of the use of language to conceal rather than to express thought. The Emperor William declares that "the

foreign relations of Germany are, notwithstanding the present difficulties of the political situation, in full accord with the pacific policy pursued by his Majesty. His Majesty's constant and assiduous endeavor is to preserve friendly relations with all powers, especially those connected with Germany by ties of neighborhood and history, and as far as peace may be endangered among such, to preserve it by friendly mediation among them." Further on the Emperor asserts that "whatever the future may have in store, Germany may rest assured that the blood of her sons will be sacrificed or risked only for the protection of her own honor and her own interests." Past experience has shown us how to estimate Emperors' declarations of peace. Napoleon was never tired of informing the Corps Législatif that the Empire was one of Peace. Probably, after all, notwithstanding the candor, the Emperor William and Bismarck are the best-informed persons in Europe as to the foreign policy of Germany.

RESULTS OF THE ENFORCED ARMISTICE. THE TURKS RESTRAINED BY RUSSIA FROM CON-QUERING SERVIA-PROBABILITY OF GREAT BRIT-AIN BEING INVOLVED IN THE WAR-A SETFLE-MENT EXPECTED FROM THE CONFENENCE-TOR BRITISH GOVERNMENT OUTWITTED.

now a matter beyond the possibility of doubt. Hostilities have ceased in the Morava Valley, but not before the Turks had materially strengthened their military position in following up the victories of the early part of the week, and securing Alexinatz. Djunis, and Deligrad. In case of the renewal of hostilities they will thus be placed in a much more favorable position than any they have occupied since the commencement of the war. The friends of Turkey have made vigorous efforts to induce the belief that the Russian ultimatum was not the cause of the speedy acceptance of the armis e. A labored effort has been made to show that the Porte had consented to the armistice before the Russian ultimatum had arrived. Foremost among those who have made these efforts have been The Daily Telegraph, whose correspondent at Constantinople telegraphed on Monday night that the negotiations for a six weeks' armistice were finally concluded then. In spite of the aspect of subsequent events The Telegraph firmly adheres to its position, and even indulges in self-landation of its enterprise in thus heralding to the world information which, notwithstanding its want of truth, it thinks ought to have prevented the excitement caused by the receipt of the intelligence of the Russian ultimatum. The Porte has doubtless given us several recent instances of improved vitality, but I am afraid it must be admitted that is impossible to regard Turkey in the same light as for the peremptory message which Gen. Ignation delivered on Monday night the armistice would still have been looming in the future. At all hazards a desperate effort had to be made to improve the Turks' military position before they retired from the struggle. On Monday night the first fruits of this desperate effort were being reaped, and it is not likely that they would have stayed their hands till they had delivered the blow with all its force and had had sufficient time to see its results. The ultimatum was like a shell in their camp and it might have scattered their fondest hopes. It did not, however, do so, for in the 48 ours which were given them they managed to ocenpy those fortresses they have been so long struggling to obtain. The Turks from a military point of view and as between themselves and Servia are completely masters of the situation, but in the moment of complete, victory they have been compelled to stay their hands and grant an armistice of two

months. How will the time thus gained be used and what results will be attained are questions which give rise to some anxiety. It is quite an open question whether the ensuing two months will prove the prelude of peace or whether they will result in war, which, if recommenced, will certainly not remain within its hitherto circumscribed limits. It may be taken for granted, if war should be renewed, that Turkey will have to encounter not merely a war waged through Servia by the Pan-Slavic societies, but that she will have to meet, face to face, their supposed greatest friend, Russia. How long such a contest would remain localized between Russia and Turkey is a matter of little doubt. England's neutrality will only last so long as her interests are not threatened, and Russian victories in Turkey would not be long in doing something which would be taken as inimical to British interests. Here, then, is a genuine danger ahead, and it can only be the strong interests in the direction of peace of all the European Powers which can avert it. If a renewal of bestilities will mean, as it seems it inevitable will a general European scramble which no as a hopeful angury for the future that the collective interests of Europe are in the direction of peace. Much, however, must depend upon the method of of misunderstanding and much more opportunity of compromise than if the matter is left to the emall probability be called, and much will depend upon the spirit with which it is entered into, and perhaps something on the place in which it is held. On the whole the prespects of a final peace are no less hopeful now than they were two days ago. It is doubtful, however, if the suggested conference

will settle for all time the Eastern difficulty. The attitude of France in the present crisis has been a matter of somewhat anxious speculation in the excitement of the past few weeks. The internal position of the country and a recollection of 1871 tended to the impression that she would perforce be neutral, while the much talked of triple alliance and supposed favorable attitude of Germany toward Russia lent color to the opposite view. The desire of France to maintain her position in the counsels of Europe, and her wish not to be regarded as one forever to be left out in the cold, also formed an important factor in the consideration of the question The Duc Decazes has set all doubt at rest, for at the opening of the French Chambers yesterday he was very emphatic in laying it down that peace was the first and most essential of the national wants of France. It was by peace alone, he said, that France could devote herself to her internal reorganization and to repair little by little the disasters of a recent past. The Duke is evidently hopeful of the pacific result of the present position. The armistice which has just been concluded marks in his opinion a first stage in the path of peace and announces an initial success for a policy of conciliation. He however reminds the Chamber that France has lost no opportunity of pleading the just cause of the Christians in the East, and he claims that a publication of the correspondence will show that the Government of the French Republic has taken a proper position in the European contest. Non-intervention on the part of France is thus assured at all events with the present Ministry.

The Marquis of Hartington spoke last night for the first time since Parliament separated, and his remarks on the Eastern question have derived a double force from his position as leader of the opposition and from the fact that he has just returned from an extended tour in Turkey. He sharply criticised many of the points in the Government policy in the past, but he does not disagree with their attitude. Lord Hartington quite agrees present that no hope of better things is to come from the unassisted hands of the Porte, and that no amount of promises they may make will be of any use unless accompanied by guarantees for their fulfillment. His Lordship is of opinion that the revelation of the atrocities in Bulgaria served to expose the true character of Turkish rule, and so to lead Lord Derby from the position which he originally assumed and compel him to join with the other Cabinets of Europe. Lord Hartington remnded his hearers of the necessity—which seems in danger of being partially lost sight of—of bearing in mind that the first object of the negotiations is to ameliorate the condition of the Christian subjects of the Porte. Lord Derby has certainly allowed his opportunity to pass by. Russia has usurped the position of England as the leader of those who are best entitled to be regarded as the friends of the Christians, and not a few of the present complications have arisen in consequence. unless accompanied by guarantees for their fulfill-

THE FASHIONS.

The aim of designers and engravers on metals

HINTS FOR EARLY WINTER. INTRODUCTION OF NEW GEMS AND MINERALS-LATE OPENINGS OF COSTUMES, BONNETS, AND ALL

and precious stones is to revive the artistic metal and gem work of the sixteenth century and the period of the Renaissance. Marvelously beautiful settings for jewelry are done in repoussé. The desire for change has introduced jewelry fashioned of rich stones, like Labrador feldspar, azure-blue in hue. It takes an exquisite polish, its chaloyant reflection making it extremely popular. Artistic examples may be seen in various designs for ornament, as well as in table tops and articles of vertu. It is blue, bronze-red, yellow, blue-green, or purple. Another stone is the Oriental chrysolite, of a greenish-vellow, with brown tinges. When translucent with opal-changing hues it is called eat's-eye. The value of this stone depends upon the play or refraction of light. A fine specimen, an heirloom of an old family, has recently been set as a ring in large diamonds. These and other stones and gene are set is gold decorated with colored enamels in relief. A superb intagh, of Marguerite of Parma, is cut in what is called false "topaz," a species of eximgorm assuming the deep red orange hue of the jacinth. Among the minerals now festionable for jewelry are perphyry, jasper, amethystine quartz, labradorite, and agates cut and polished. Some beautiful neckinees are made of beryl. Some charming sets of jewelry which LONDON, Nov. 4.-The two months' armistice is will be fashionable are made of many-colored topaz, pale blue Brazilian sapphire, aqua marme, pink Brazilian ruby, and the pale, yellowish-green Brazilian chrysolite. Lapis lazuli is set for pendants, earnings, and necklaces, both in the costly Persian stone and the French imita tion. All of these stones are set in colored gold, Oriental fashion, with pearls, in various pretty conceits, such as true-lovers' knots, Greek arabesques, intertwined rings, crosses, stars, and arrows. A dark antique onyx is wonderfully carved in the shape of a prison window, the bars being formed of the upper layer in dark brown entirely detached from the window, while behind the bars Cupid is a prisoner chained to a block. On others are carved Mary Todor, Marie de Medicis, Ulysses, Achilles, Hagar and Ishmael, Guido's Aurora. What can be more exquisite than these perfect carvings upon the dark brown of onyx, the pale pink of chalcedony, the delicate green of the chrysoprase, the pink of the sard, the violet glinting of the amethyst! There are many superb specimens of the opal, its living fires contrasted with the costly settings of large diamonds in pendant and

The last fashionable openings of the present season prove that, netwithstanding the introduction of vivid priety, it it may be so termed, of preferring black, stumes for street wear. Black silk is combined with black velvet, cashmere with silk, plain velvet, and embessed velvet, and one of the most elegant costumes of the season at a late opening united excessive richnesa and quiet elegance. Intended for carriage and visiting wear, the skirt, demi-trained, of rich black gros grain, had a wide flounce of black veivet, headed and completed by a velvet knife-platting. The velvet overskirt, on one side, had a revers of black satin, and on the other side an elaborate trimming of united satin and velvet formed the back drapery. The basque, of cuirass shape, was made of black silk, with velvet sleeves, trimmed with wide slik fringe and mossy heading. equally elegant dress of black gros grain was combined with rich matelassé, and yet another was composed of black velvet and black satin, with trimmings of veivet looping, cocks' and ostrich feathers. Less costly dresses were of black silk, demi-train, and trimmed with knife-plaitings and triple and double box-plaited flounces. The polonaise is extremely simple in design. Some of the dresses into which color is more or less in troduced show extremes in contrasts. An imported dress of delicate blue gros grain has an overskirt of blue damassé, while all of the facings, pipings, and knots of ribbon are deep cardinal red. A myrtle green costume re questionable in taste is a superb hunter's green velvet, worn with polonaise of camei's hair, dotted with celeste bine. The very elaborate garniture consists of facings and trimmings of green silk and blue silk, and tringe of the two colors united. There are some extremely rich costumes of damask camel's hair, thick and soft, and on the dark ground are designs of an oriental nature in lighter shades of ferrs, allautus, and palms. They cost, double width, \$3 a yard. Bagdad wool fabrics are made gay with silk or wool tufted knots and dots woven in gay Turkish colors on a dark ground. They are made up with silk pipings to match the most promi-

nent of the bright spots. Most exquisite are the fabrics for evening dresses (to be worn as overdresses), called gauze grenadines, of different styles. Some are open lace-work, transparent as a cobweb, others are quite covered with damask and rich brocade figures. The colors are exceedingly delicate-pale water-green, apricot pink, cream color, and several tints of rosy lilac. A charming evening tollet is made of water-green gros grain and damassé, with trim ming of rich cheuille fringe. The décolleté basque is ent square in front and is with out sleeves; a narrow flound Flowers have never been more extensively used for the decoration of dresses, large clusters of the red and white Dubarry rose, the magnificent Ternier a mide, the pale or the Poine Margnerite, and creamy tea rose long garlands of graceful passion flower, heliotrope, and ferns, parares of gorgeous eacti mingled with foliage plant and salvia; gariands of vivid Autumn leaves grapes, and hops; clusters of white jasmine spirea and lilae, scarlet tropical buds, half-hidden in moss. Entire overdresses are made of flowers placed lengthwise in

line, scarlet tropical buds, half-indden in moss. Entire overdresses are made of flowers placed lengthwise in garlands on a transparent foundation, and bouquets are placed indiscriminately wherever there may be looping of drapery or wherever a enprisons taste may dictate. To correspond with the charming floral garniture are sets of Jewerry (so-cailed) made up of the brilliant top of a humminguird's head finished with the tiny foot and claws; otners of opal-seent little Branilan shells, the light green tropical bur, pretty porcelam flowers made in Prague, purple violets, double pluks, roses. Big cups, and hily of the valley; and there are amber flies and oed bugs and costly carrings of butterflies formed of the rarest germs set in gray platina.

The last openinas disclose some new shapes in bounets. The dantiest and most conspicuous is one of velvet and the brandeau, or loop of velvet and slik in front. Some have a bordering of fur on the edge of the brinn. Black velvet bonnets, of whatever shape, are considered more fashionable, but there are many elegant colored have imported of such colors combined as green and amber, minberry and bline, purple and dark poppy red, cied blue and lanter's green. Seal sacques are quite as poutar as ever, and are made more easy and graceful by the seam in the back, and so are extensively patronized by ladies who like to show what Mrs. Manthini calls "their outline." They are also longer. Last year's sacques can be lengthened by a bordering of fur of black beaver, silvery black marten, cainchilla, unplucked otter, fisher tall, and sea otter. Sets of muff and boa of mink and Alaska sable are the handsomest of inexpensive furs, ranging in price from \$16 to \$90. The beautiful blue fox is as fashionable acter, but cannot stand a wear of more than one season. The costly Russian sables are becoming each year more destratice as they are more scarce. Boas are longer than those of last year. Chinchilla takes a high place this season in fashionable regard. The beautiful Arica chinchilla is bands are from \$16 to \$25; the linest chinchina sens for \$6; brown sen otter from \$10 to \$25, and cheaper bands of the pretty black jeannette, black marten, black hare, and lynx, range from \$1 up to \$5. Messrs. Starr & Marcus, Lord & Taylor, Arnold & Con-stable, II. O'Neill & Co., and C. G. Gunther & Sons, will please accept thanks for information furnished.

STYLES IN STATIONERY. ENGLISH FASHIONS-PAPER AND ENVELOPES-INVI-TATIONS, VISITING CARDS &C.,

The present styles in stationery follow English models. The paper and envelopes used for letters and notes are thick and substantial in preference to flimsy thin papers; if any ornamentation is used it is very slight; and the formula of invitations is simple English, instead of those wordy protestations interiorded with French phrases formerly in vogue. The heavy English and American papers may be either rough-finished or have a smooth surface; the former kind is called by dealers "cold-pressed," and the latter "hot-pressed." Cream white and grayish tints just off white are preferred to chalk white or blue tinted papers. The shapes are medium and long sheets smaller than commercial note paper, and are known as ladies' letter sizes and note sheets. They open in the old-fashioned way, as the leaves of a book open, instead of being turned back from the end, and are much longer than their width, so that when folded once they fit the envelopes, which are of medium size and square shape, or else longer than they are broad. The fancy for purple and blue ink has passed away, and black is used again. The small round hand writing of copy books and the indistinct running hand have had their day; the caprice now is for imitating the large angular writing of Englishwomen, and this, it is said, is taught in fashionable boarding schools. A simple and artistic monogram, or else a single initial, nce. Is placed in the left-hand corner at the top of the page. partic

The newest monograms are in blended colors, such as silver, gold, or bronze, illuminated with cardinal or dark Pempeian red, or Sèvres blue, or perhaps violet. The oddest combinations are made up of graceful script letters, of the stately old English capitals, of grotesque dragon letters, of Japanese characters, and various others, some of which are as purgling as Sanskrit. Dragen letters of silver, caught in meshes or colowebs and tool with blue or gold ribbon, make artistic menograms. A pale blue disk, with a silver script letter in the center and a silver rim, is a very pretty ornament at the head of note paper. The quaint Japanese monogram is narrow and at least two inches long, and looks well in gold with scarlet, silver with blue, or bronze with crimson. Still another design is a band half an inch wide placed diagonally in the left-hand corner, and on it is the name of the writer in Japanese charac ters. There are cardinal bands with the Japanese characters in black, or gold, or silver, very quaint in deed and pretty, but rather too suggestive of the hiero glyphics on fire-cracker packages and ten caddles. Violet or silver hands with letters of the same color but of different shade are considered to be in good taste. Some young ladies have their first mame in viole; or in scarlet, fac-simile of their own handwriting, placed obliquely near the top. Another ornament is a small cluster of smaller flowers-mignonnette, violets, or myosotis-done in colors, tied with a gold ribbon on which the name is inscribed. These look like water colors painted by kared, but they are done by pressee. In the right corner the conjess is sometimes used, giving the number and street of city honoes or the name of the country seat. Only the initial, or the monogram, or the family crest, is used on the envelope. Ladies in mourning use thick English paper thrited dark gray and bordered with black.

Fashiomoble visiting cards are made of glazzed Bristot board, and are small or of medium size. The name is encraved in small round script. Old English text is very little used, and few fac-similes of bandwrithing are seen on eards. The charge for engraving the plate for cards is \$2. One hundred cards are furnished and printed from the plate for \$1.50. Large octave cards and square envelopes are the new stationery for short notes, regrets and notes of acceptance. They are cream or gray tinted, and have the day of the week engraved diagonally in colored letters on the left upper corner. A box holding 50 of these cards, with cuvelopes to match, costs \$1.50. Sometimes a small monogram is engraved in the right upper corner, or else the address is there. Small boys and girls have their visiting and birthday cards, and even for infinite of a month old are tmy cards scarcely an inch long upon which doting grandmamma has had the name of Eaby Belle cograved.

Invitation cards, as already stated, bear simple formulas containing the fewest words necessary. But, to be of city homes or the name of the country seat. Only

mulas containing the fewest words necessary. But, to be in good taste, all the words must be there, without abbreviations or contractions. When the hours are denoted, they must be written out, as "From nine until twelve," and the days of the month are also written; figures are used only for addresses. Instead of the ini colors, women of taste comprehend the stricter pro-priety, if it may be so termed, of preferring black quested." Wedding cards consist of a small note sheet for the invitation, the bride's card, and a smaller card with the groom's name. In small script, on the creamwhite note sheet, the formula runs: "Mr. and Mrs. John Jones request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter on Thursday, April tentis, at half nest twelve o'clock, at the Church of the Ascension." If a great many invitations are issued (4,000 have just been ordered for an approaching wedding), a ceremony card for admittance to the church is added. If receptions are to be given by the newly married on certain days—as Tuesdays in November—an "At Home" card bearing that announcement is inclosed, making four cards and one note sheet in the small square envelope. The ends and sides of the envelope are beaded, or clies they have a tape border, and this is the only ornament. There are no menograms and no initials on these sample and elegant invitations, and no white ribbons or silver rords for tying the cards together. If there is a crost in the bride's family, it is engraved in white and of very small size on both the note sheet and envelope. There is also a fancy for writing invitations this season instead of engraving them; this is an English custom, and is supposed to express greater cordinative when the invitation is written by the nost or hostess. For a late fushionable weedding at Grace Church where the grotom was an Ehordered for an approaching wedding), a ceremony card is written by the most or hostess. For a late inshionable wedding at Grace Church where the groom was an Englishman, the invitations were written and the old-malmoned English orthography was preserved as in "requests the honotor." For small weddings at home a small note sheet is made to tell everything, even the name of the bride and groom, dispensing altogether with cards. When the wedding is private and there are "no carris," the announcement of the marriage is made by the joint card—as of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith—and attached to the upper part of the card with a smaller card bearing the name of the hidy before her marriage. Invitations to dinners are on small note sheets or on large cards. For weekly receptions, "afternoon teas," and informal parties, the visiting card of the hostess is used with the date in the lower left-hand corner, and the address just beneath it.

A visit to the work rooms on the upper floor at Tif-A visit to the work rooms on the upper floor at Tif-

teresting. Everything is done on the premises. Here are the great sheets of paper just as they come from the mills of England, Scotland, and France, waiting to be cut and folded in letter and note sheets, and here is the cut and folded in letter and note sheets, and here is the knife shaped to cut envelopes and the machine that folds and gums them at the rate of 20,000 a day. Here are the artists who execute heraidic devices, original designs for monograms, curious ciphers, enbossed headings, &c., and here are the skilled workmen who finish them in beautiful colors. Dies and crests are cut and the plates engraved on the premises. The beading on envelopes is done on presses that are worked by girls. Sheets of card-board half a yard square are cut into the proper size for visiting cards by a hand machine worked by a young girl. The plates for the visiting cards of 14,000 customers are stowed away here and registered in a book in such a systematic way that they can be found immediately upon mountry; 12,000 dies and crests that have been made to order are locked in a safe, registered, and ready to be brought forth with equal

THE APPETITE FOR FICTION.

THE DEMAND AT THE CIRCULATING LIBRARIES FOR CURRENT LIGHT LITERATURE.

Eighty per cent of the books drawn from the circulating libraries of New-York City are works of fic-tion. It is asserted that Americans are great book-buy-ers, and an estimate of the books that are chiefly in demand, based on the records of circulating libraries, in not always correct. Books sold over the counter are more particularly those of intrinsic worth, almost indiapensable to the reader, such as books of reference, history, and standard works. But this is not the pabulum with which the public appetite is sated. It is the lighter material that is more easily digested, and few collectors wish to fill their shelves with the ephemeral publications of the day. "Of the making of books there is no end," is far truer now than in the days of mon, and thus the value of a public library to the average reader is simply incalculable. This has seven large circulating libraries, numerous district collections, and it is estimated that they furnish the daily reading of at least 5,000 families. The Mer. cantile has the largest list of subscribers, and although it often distributes as many as 1,800 volumes a day, the average is only 700. Mr. Peoples, the librarian, in answer to the question, "What do people read!" replied, "Chiefly novels nowadays. You would be surprised to know the number of books young girls manage to get through with, and from Mrs. Fleming's ' Mad Mar riage' to 'Daniel Deronda' and 'Helen's Babies' I have an unceasing call for works of fiction. Some of these young misses average two and three books a day-But then the standard novels are always in great demand. Dickens perhaps surpasses the rest, and of his writings 'David Copperfield' and 'Dombey and Son' stand first in popular favor. Fasekeray is best known by his 'Vanity Fair' and 'Pendenuls,' Bulwer by 'The Last of the Barona' and 'My Novel, while all the works of Dumas, Scott, and Hugo are much sought after. There seems to be a sudden railing off in the demand for works on European travel. Engene Schnyler's 'Turkstan,' Prime's' Travels in the East,' 'Dotting Around time Circle,' by Benjamin Curtis, and the writings of Bayard Taylor, W. D. Howells, and Du Chafiln are continually asked for. As to histories, Bancroft's United States, Guizot's History of France, and Macaulay's, Hume's, and Fronde's works are the most popular. The demand for biographics of late has been small, but John Quincy Adams's Memoirs, and the Memoirs of the Earl of Albemarle, the Rey, Dr. Fluncy, and George Sand, are quite But then the standard novels are always to great de-Adams's Memoirs, and the Memoirs of the Earl of Albe-marle, the Rey. Dr. Finney, and George Sand, are quite popular. For children's reading Oliver Optic still reigns supreme, but Jacob Abbott is as great a favorite as of oid, and Mayne Reid, Elijah Kellogg, and Horatic Alger, Jr., still continue to be the delight of the small boy. Jules Verne should be popular with young folks, but there are more calls from grown people for his books than from children.

children."

Butler's Eelectic Library, on Union-square, has a large number of subscribers among the fashionable people up town. The librarian said that it would be hard to say what particular books were in the most demand. "Our young readers," said he, "generally begin with Mrs. Holmes, and I believe could she write a new novel every young renders," said he, "generally begin with Mrs. Holmes, and I believe could she write a new novel every week it would be eagerly devoured. Then there are Mrs. Fleming, 'Outda,' Mary Ceel Hay, airs. Alexander, Annie Edwards, Katherine Macquoid, Miss. Braddon, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Rutledge, 'Marian Harland,' and Mrs. Southworth. The works of all these are in great demand." In regard to the preferences of married iadies, he said that Miss. Malloch's books were estenued, as they were all quiet, natural steries; then come George Eliot, Mrs. Oliphant, Augusta Evans, Florence Marryac, Mrs. Forrester, Rhoda Broughton, and George MacDonaid. Masculine readers sought more for each writers as Thackeray, Lever, Trollope, Reade, Hawthorne, Collins, Kingsley, and Bulwer.

The book that had the largest sale this season, with the exception of "Daniel Deronda," was "Heien's Babies," and it is said that already menry 90,000 copies have been disposed of. Its sale, however, has been largely increased by Judicious advertising, and by use peculiar name. The "No Name Series," the first or which is "Mercy Philorick's Choles," promises to have a large circulation. Marian Harlan's "My Little Love." and Miss Mulock's "Laurel Bush" have had a large sale. Wilkie Collins is always welcouned, and his "Two Destinies" selis well. During the Suamer, Black's "Princess of Thule" had the largest run, and "One Summer" was found in many tourists' satchels. The "Brick-Brac" series and books of misceliany secunded particularly interesting to travelers.